

Ripley County Democrat.

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'ROUNDABOUT THE STATE.

Cleaned from Exchanges--Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot--Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.

The Russian government has placed an order for 500,000 pairs of military boots with a St. Louis firm.

The new laws passed by the late legislature have been printed and are now being distributed by the secretary of state.

With a new bank, a new grain elevator, not a vacant house or an idle man in town, Houstonia seems in a fair way of prosperity.

Gathering corn in May. This is not the title of a song but the real thing. A farmer south of Milan has several acres yet to get out.

Thirty-three persons more than 80 years old live at Madison, Monroe county. The oldest of the number is Mrs. Mary White, who is 99.

A feather bed weighing forty-six pounds was sent from Paris to Olathe, Kas., a few days ago by parcel post. The postage was fifty cents.

The dredge boat at work cleaning out the channels of 102 river is now six miles from Maryville and is expected to arrive in port there about July 1.

The state capitol commission announces that the cornerstone of Missouri's new state house at Jefferson City will be laid with appropriate ceremonies on June 24.

A vaudeville performer, seven feet and two inches tall, is now touring Missouri. One of his merry quips is that he left home because his mother did not need him any longer.

A \$70,000 bond issue for installing a city lighting plant and improving the water works system at Kirksville will be voted on there at a special election ordered for June 24.

Vowing vengeance on rats which persisted in catching her chickens, a Macon woman bought a wire trap and baited it. Next morning she found she had caught seventeen little chickens.

You may not believe it, says the Renick Enterprise, shocked almost beyond expression, but a young lady asked a gentleman for a cigarette and it was one day last week right here in Renick.

The state is going into the business of manufacturing overalls. Machinery has been installed in the penitentiary at Jefferson City and one hundred convicts will be employed therein within thirty days.

That the fish had been bitten by a poisonous snake was the solution offered by local fishermen when two persons in Grundy county were made seriously ill by eating a fish caught a few hours before in Grand river.

Trenton is so hungry for the sight of a real circus that a tented attraction has been offered free license, free lot and free water if it will stop over for a day, breaking a jump from Centerville, Iowa, to Kansas City.

When a butcher in a neighboring town bought a barber shop, the Salisbury Democrat offered the suggestion that lots of barbers are qualified to run a butcher business and that it is a poor rule that will not work both ways.

When two south Missouri farmers, one armed with a pitch fork and the other with a hoe began to belabor each other with their respective weapons, an editorial bystander's comment was that it was no fit way to cultivate an acquaintance.

The distinction of having been the first white child born in Linn county is claimed for Thomas Benton Bowyer of Linneus. Mr. Bowyer, now 77 years old, was born during one of Senator T. H. Benton's campaigns and so received his name.

Acting Governor Wm. R. Painter issued a pardon to Preston T. Aker, the Smithville banker who was sentenced to the penitentiary for two years for forgery amounting to \$50,000 while he was cashier of the Farmers bank in Smithville.

Blood is thicker than water, and when a Siloam Springs youth saw his father getting the worst of it in a fist fight with a woman with whom he had quarreled over a division fence, the dutiful son got his shot gun and took a shot at the enemy in petticoats.

A Galt man went shopping the other day and before he returned he had bought an entire town, consisting of an acre of ground, store building, ware houses, one residence and a \$5,500 stock of merchandise. His bargain was the town of Shafter in Grundy county.

Thousands of visitors were at Sarcoxie the forepart of the week to see the big peony field in full bloom. There are sixty acres of blooming peonies. It is said to be the largest peony field in the whole world. Sarcoxie is a town of about 1,800 people, in Jasper county.

The last shipment of fifteen thousand war horses recently ordered by the Italian government was sold at St. Louis Friday to a group of Italian army officers representing their government. The officers received instructions at the same time to remain in St. Louis.

A man up a tree was discovered in the yard of Mayor Koonitz at Fulton the other day and when called down could not give a satisfactory explanation to a policeman who had been called up. The tree climber is a forger and had arrived in Fulton only a few hours before.

Grover Turpin of Iatan was mighty lucky that he had his watch with him the other day. Mr. Turpin was in the act of climbing through a barbed wire fence when a rifle ball struck the watch pocket of his shirt. He was stunned by the impact, but the watch had saved his life.

"Daniel Boone's body lies in an obscure grave on a hill overlooking the Missouri river in Warren county," says an item going the rounds of Missouri newspapers. The Mount Vernon Chieftan sets them right by stating that Boone's body was removed in 1845 to Frankfort, Ky.

Guy Blankenbaker, a prominent farmer in the Howard county bottom, lost six milch cows last week in a peculiar manner. Blankenbaker was

spraying his orchard with a mixture containing arsenate of lead, and the cows drank some of the solution. They died soon afterwards.

Shelby county folks are pretty neighborly. On the day that a farmer who resides near Shelbyville was taken to Rochester, Minn., to undergo a surgical operation, seventeen neighbors with fifteen teams brought their drags harrows and listers and planted their less fortunate fellows corn crop for him.

E. T. Tate, former cashier of the Birch Tree bank, which failed in August, 1913, was convicted of embezzlement by a jury in the Shannon county circuit court at Eminence and sentenced to the penitentiary for two years. His attorneys, W. J. Orr and L. B. Shuck, filed notice of an appeal to the supreme court.

A. M. Dookery, third assistant postmaster general, has found that there are 37,804 pensioners on the rolls in Missouri, who receive annually more than eight million dollars. There are only five states in the Union which have larger pension rolls. They are Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois and Indiana.

A Monett caterer who desired to decorate the walls of his place of business with some clay "peace pipes" placed the order for them by telephone. It seems he did not make himself quite clear as to the articles desired and the result was a dray load of extra length clay drainage pipe delivered at the store a few hours later.

A live, active, six legged pig, four in the rear and two in front, is claimed by Charles Lytle, six miles west of Hopkins, on the old Ingram farm. The two extra legs are situated on the left side and are attached by skin and flesh a few inches behind the front legs. The pig is thrifty and appears as active as the other eight of the litter.

A woman may talk back to a police officer, says Circuit Judge Moore at Forsyth. A year ago marshal Hawkins of Branson, impounded some stray hogs of Mrs. Anna Stauffers. She told the officer just exactly what she thought of him, and he arrested her, but let her go. She sued Hawkins for false arrest and has been given a \$200 judgment.

Because his 18 year old son had whipped him three times, Jack Kennedy, arraigned at Lexington on a charge of having threatened his wife's life, asked leniency as to the amount of bond when bound over to await the action of the criminal court. The bond was fixed at \$300, and not being forthcoming, Kennedy was sent to jail. "I'm in hard luck," he said.

A "shaving skillet" that belonged to his great-great-grandfather is one of the cherished possessions of W. W. McDonald of Maryville. Taking the Tribune's word for it. "The little household utensil will hold about a quart of water and stands about four inches high. It has three legs and a rat tail handle six inches long. It is supposed that the skillet once was used to heat water for shaving purposes."

"Via submarine," was Lathrop's electric current routed the other day. Lathrop is supplied from the power station at Plattsburg and a few days ago it was noticed that there was something wrong with the current. The

power was shut off and linemen sent to inspect and test the feed wires. Everything was found alright until Smith's Fork creek was reached. There a feed wire had broken, both ends having fallen in the creek. The linemen reported that Lathrop had been receiving current through water bridging the space between the ends of the broken wire.

As a north bound train was coming around the curve at Brandsville Monday afternoon, E. C. Turnbaugh and Ed Capshaw, well known citizens of the famous peach town, had a real knock down fight on the depot platform. Squire T. G. Bridges Constable Ben Hollingshad and Prosecuting attorney J. D. Bees were on the depot platform at the time, waiting for the train. It took just about two minutes for the constable to arrest the combatants, Squire Bridges arraigned them as the train came to a standstill and as the engineer gave the signal for the train to proceed Constable Hollingshad and Prosecuting Attorney Bees heard the familiar sound of "one dollar and costs." Turnbaugh pleaded guilty, while Capshaw asked for a jury trial.

Frank J. Cunningham, cashier of the Citizens Trust Company of Caruthersville, was named receiver for the holdings of J. E. Franklin, president of the Banker's Trust Co., now in the hands of receiver, by Judge D. P. Dyer, of the United States District Court at St. Louis Monday. The holdings are valued at more than \$1,000,000. Judge Dyer also canceled the agreement of sale of 8,500 acres of Pemisoot county land belonging to Franklin, and removed the Creditor's Committee appointed to take charge of the Franklin holdings from further control of the affairs. Judge Dyer said that the sale price of \$300,000 for the 8,500 acres of Pemisoot county land was much too small, and in the sale of it the creditors had not advertised properly. District Attorney Arthur L. Oliver was appointed to act as attorney for the receiver.—Hayti Herald.

Sixty-one years ago, Federal troops, during the civil war, converted to their own use a lot of personal property belonging to a citizen at Tipton, Moniteau county, who was conducting a livery stable. This property consisted of mules, horses, etc. Some years after his death, his daughter, Mrs. Mary Christopher, of Boonville, began the prosecution of a claim against the government of the United States to recover damages for confiscation of her father's property. About a dozen or more years ago, Attorney C. W. Journey took the matter in hands and for these years he has worked unceasingly in behalf of the complainant. A few days ago W. W. Trigg, who was appointed administrator, received a government voucher for the sum of \$10,000, which is what is left of the claim of \$12,500 to the credit of the estate. The attorneys in the case were allowed \$2,500 by the government for their services and the remainder was paid to the estate.

A local option election will be held in St. Francois county in July.

Origin of Silk Industry. Silk was first made by Si-Ling, wife of Hoan-Ti, emperor of China, 2600 B. C. Among the Greeks, Aristotle (384-322 B. C.) is the first who mentions it. It was not until A. D. 630, however, that it began to be cultivated in Europe, the first eggs being brought from India by some monks.

Weather Favors "Ergotism."

That the rainy days of late May and June have varying results in the world of bugdom and the fungous families is evident from a warning the Missouri State Board of Agriculture waves (a la red flag) on authority of State Veterinarian Dr. D. F. Luckey. Doctor Luckey, now recognized nationally as an expert on the disease of live stock, (cattle in particular), is always on the alert to protect our stockmen, and on finding the condition favorable to trouble he pleads for extreme caution in these words:

The indications are that ergotism may be more or less prevalent among Missouri cattle in the near future. Those who are pasturing grasses of any kind that have headed out must look out for this trouble. It is most likely to occur on bluegrass pastures, especially those where the grass is rank and is forming seed.

"During wet weather, like we have been having, the seed of the grass is apt to become diseased and develop a fungus growth in the place of the healthy seed. The grains of ergot, when they appear, can be found scattered through the heads of the heads of the grass and appear, as slender black bodies—considerably larger than the bluegrass seed. Their discovery in a pasture requires a very close examination.

"A sufficient quantity of ergot taken in with the food causes a contraction of the small arteries and tends to shut off the blood supply to the extremities. Lameness is noticed first. In the advanced stages, an angry looking sore appears circling the fetlock. In extreme cases, a toe, or even the whole foot, may break off.

"Those who are pasturing bluegrass, red top, or other grasses which have headed out, should frequently examine the heads of the grass to ascertain whether the ergot is developing. Watch cattle and other animals closely for symptoms of lameness. On the first appearance of any lameness change the animals to another pasture.

"Run a mower over the pasture and keep stock off of it until a new growth of grass comes out where the cattle can get it without eating the heads that have been cut down. If the rainy weather continues, this trouble is almost sure to occur in a large number of pastures and it will pay well to run a mower over the grass, cutting off the heads before the ergot is formed. This will be almost necessary where only one pasture is available.

"If ergotism appears in a herd promptly move the stock and give each animal a full dose of purgative. For cattle, use epsom salts, giving mature animals one and one half to two pounds, and to yearlings three-fourths of a pound. Dissolve the salts in a liberal quantity of water."

The Gazette published at West Plains says right now Howell county is just about busted. The consolidated back tax books which has just been made out by the county clerk shows that taxes to the amount of \$20,418.29 are due and owing to the county and have not been collected. It is the duty of the county court to force the collection of these taxes. In fact, the county court should not have settled with the county collector in March and accepted the settlement with these taxes remaining unpaid.

COLLEGE GETS \$10,000,000



Miss Mary Carey Thomas, president of Bryn Mawr college, will receive the bulk of the \$10,000,000 estate left by her friend, Miss Mary Elizabeth Garrett, daughter of the late John W. Garrett, president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. Miss Thomas is named executrix and residuary legatee under the will which has just been probated. Bryn Mawr receives no specific bequest, but the terms of the will indicate that Miss Thomas and Miss Garrett, who had been close friends for years, had an understanding that the college was to receive substantial benefits. The picture shows Miss Thomas and Baron Russell Briggs of Radcliffe college at recent college exercises.

"HICCUGHS OF THE SEA"

Scientists Explain Frequent Reports of Cannonading Heard in the North Sea.

Paris.—The frequent reports, which subsequently were not confirmed, that heavy cannonading had been heard in the North sea, have led to an investigation by scientists. It was thus disclosed that the reports of detonations were authentic, although no firing took place.

Scientists who were on the lookout for a repetition of this phenomenon were rewarded by hearing loud detonations off the coast on a day when it was known that no naval action whatever was in progress. This phenomenon was noted along the French coast, off the Department of Pas-de-Calais. Abbe Moreux of the observatory at Bourges came to the conclusion that these loud reports were simply what the Belgians call "glistpoeffers," or explosions of fog. They are called "hiccoughs of the sea" in Holland, and sometimes are referred to as marine bombs. The same phenomenon has been observed on the banks of the great lakes and on the great plains of the Delta of the Ganges.

After the theory that these detonations were produced by artillery had been discarded, it was thought possible that they were the result of electrical discharges. Finally Abbe Moreux noticed that the appearance of this phenomenon was generally simultaneous with reports of explosions of firedamp in mines.

The electrical action of the sun upon the surface of the earth, the abbe says, provokes movements favorable to the expansion of imprisoned gases wherever there are fissures in the crust.

These gases, liberated from their prisons, explode and cause at the same time explosions of firedamp and earthquakes. The abbe pointed out that earthquakes are always preceded by noises resembling distant detonations of artillery. Vibrating shocks originating in the interior of the crust of the earth may produce sonorous waves which are quite perceptible if the atmosphere is in repose.

Abbe Moreux says that meteorological conditions do not, as has been supposed, cause the phenomenon, although they may favor its production.

Found Watch Lost in 1860. Redondo Beach, Cal.—Jerome Newberry, a young farmer, while plowing a patch of ground which had been allowed to grow weeds for many years, unearthed a large gold watch which had been lost by his grandfather in 1860.

"Young Turk" Homesick.

East Lansing, Mich.—Homesickness, stronger even than the fear of the allied fleets battering at the Dardanelles, caused M. A. Mehmedoff, a sophomore agricultural student at M. A. C., to pack up his belongings and start for his home in Constantinople. Mehmedoff was one of the "young Turks" and a good student.

Called a Misdemeanor.

Paris.—A French court has decided that it is a misdemeanor to call a person an "embusque"—a shirker of military duty—and has fined a man \$125 for applying it to another.